

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Freeman House  
3202 Bruce Avenue  
Highland Beach, Maryland

c. 1925

Private access

The Freeman House is a gable roofed, two storey structure in the historically black town of Highland Beach. It exhibits an L shaped plan and is finished in stucco. The cottage has been altered since the original construction and therefore provides an excellent documentation of space planning and change in an extant material element of African-American history and culture.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Freeman House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

3202 Bruce Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Highland Beach

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Annapolis 1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☒ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Cary  
Maxie Freeman

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

4206 20th ST NE

CITY, TOWN

Washington, DC

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
20018**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Anne Arundel County

Liber #: 0771

Folio #: 039

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, MD

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AA-835

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This cottage is a large, white gable roofed structure which has been altered periodically. The original structure was a two story frame house with a shed roofed extension from the main section. The stone-faced concrete block foundation might be a recent overlay camouflaging the original pier foundation.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1925

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

see Highland Beach Settlement

Highland Beach, Maryland is a historic black town that was founded by the son of Frederick Douglass. The town was conceived by Haley R. Douglass in the late nineteenth century to be a resort community for prominent blacks. Highland Beach is a unique existing reminder of town planning and architectural history as it relates to vernacular and high style design as exhibited by black people. Most of the architecture in Highland Beach is located on the original sites and building expansions were performed within a ten to fifteen year time frame. This provides us with a concise history of design, space planning, and architecture in a homogeneous, extant community.

All of the cottages that were constructed prior to 1930 are important elements related to town planning and design. It is important that these houses retain their originality in terms of plan design, lot orientation, interior decoration, and architectural aesthetics in order to preserve the concept of space and the dynamics of community development in this historic black town.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

see "Highland Beach Settlement"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

see title abstract

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Barbara Collins Turner

April 1982

ORGANIZATION

Morgan State University

DATE

301-444-3225

STREET & NUMBER

Center for Built Environment Studies

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore, MD

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Charle R Douglass Will 1920

To

Joseph H Douglass & Fannie (Wife)

\$10.

To

11/18/27

F.S.R. 16 343

Hermon W. Howard Marietta (Wife)  
Joint Tennats

To

Marietta (WILL) 12/ 5/51

To

Bessie Nicholson & Bessie Lowe

To

6/16/52

L 686 F 149

Mary E. Henderson & Edwin B.

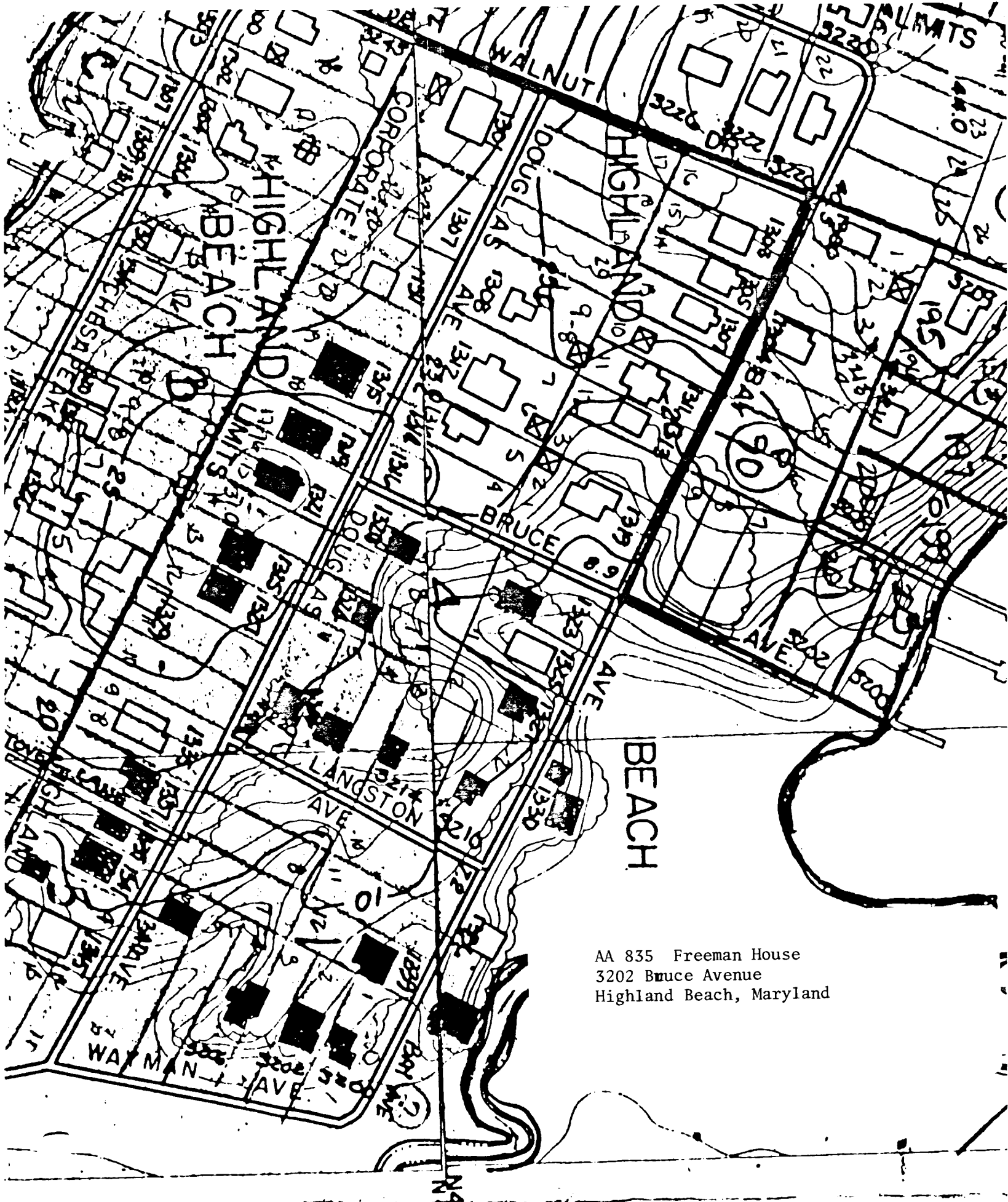
To

7/20/53

L 771 F 39

Cary H. Freeman & Maxine J.

Begining for the same 5"FT from an iron pipe previously set at the Southwest corner of Lot 1 on the Northwest side of Bruce Ave and in line there of South 34 15' west 65 ft to the Northwest side of a 30 ft road, thence with the said side of said road. North 55 45' West 150 ft to a 15 ft road, as shown on the plat, thence leaving said 30 ft road and with the said 15 ft road. North 34 15' east 65 ft to a point 5 ft from the line of Lot 1, thence in a line paralled with the line of Lot 1 South 55 45' East 150 ft to the begining same being all of Lots 2&3, Block 7, except that portion of Lot 3 contained in the 30 ft road, and a section 5 ft by 150 ft of Lot 2 adjacent to Lot 1; containing 9,750 sq ft of land more or less



AA 835 Freeman House  
3202 Bruce Avenue  
Highland Beach, Maryland





AA 835 Freeman House  
3202 Bruce Avenue  
Highland Beach, Maryland  
General View  
Fern Eisner, Photographer  
March, 1982